

City of Corunna  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, November 1, 1999

Present: Weaver, Bayless, Bendall, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Runyan.

Absent: None.

Guests: Lisa Hitchcock, City Manager; Dave Stechschulte; Steve Kirinovic, Abraham & Gaffney; Herb Jenkins; Judy Horton; Jeremy Boyd, Treasurer; Stephanie Wuttke, The Independent; Richard & Pat Sanderson; Dave Wenzlick; Dr. James Billis; Charles Spring; Larry Friess; Officer Kevin Clark, Police Department; Bill & Nancy Runyan; Gene Sanderson; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; C. Byers; Ingrid Smith; Mark Stechschulte; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Weaver at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting as presented with the addition of the statement that council did not want to set a precedent by allowing parking on the grass in McCurdy Park and the statement that Dr. Abbott had five acres of land available to use under the discussion portion of item two. Councilperson Runyan advised that he made a motion at the last meeting when council considered Dr. Abbott's request that council did not want to set a precedent by allowing parking on the grass in McCurdy Park. It was not added to the motion but was stated to the clerk to include it in the minutes. He stated he would like to see it added to the minutes. Ms. Long advised it would be added to the minutes. Councilperson Ockerman advised that he made a statement that Dr. Abbott had five acres of land and would like to see that statement added to the minutes also. Ms. Long advised that his statement would also be added to the minutes.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Hornus moved, Bendall seconded to approve the agenda as presented by moving Item 2) Audit Presentation to Item 3 and by adding Consider Stechschulte Paving Request as Item 2.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Bendall, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Dumond moved, Bendall seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Bendall, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE - CITIZEN IN-PUT TO THE CITY COUNCIL: Herb Jenkins

asked if council knew the number of accidents that have occurred at the Mack Street intersection. Ms. Hitchcock advised no. Mr. Jenkins recited statistics for 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999 that he received from Chief Hetfield. Mr. Jenkins stated that it did not look like Mack Street was the city's dangerous intersection, but the city wants to spend money to make it a one-way street. He suggested making the alley one-way so traffic can come out to Mack Street after using the post office drop box. Pat Sanderson asked what the reasons were for changing Mack Street to a one-way street. Mayor Weaver advised that there has been a general consensus that Mack Street was a hazardous corner and someone asked what could be done to eliminate this corner. He further advised that the engineers were asked to study the corner and they recommended making Mack Street a one-way street for one block, which they felt would eliminate the hazardous corner. Mrs. Sanderson asked who would make the final decision. Mayor Weaver advised city council. Mrs. Sanderson stated that figures. Bill Runyan stated that it was his understanding that a decision had to be made in the next day or so. Mayor Weaver advised that the engineers want an answer by November 4. The Downtown Development Authority has a meeting on November 3 and he was under the impression that they would discuss the issue at that meeting and would make a final recommendation. Mr. Runyan asked why the Downtown Development Authority was making the decision instead of the city council. Mayor Weaver advised that city council would make the final decision and the Downtown Development Authority has been very involved with the streetscape project. Dr. Billis asked Mayor Weaver if he shared with council on what went on at the last Downtown Development Authority meeting. Mayor Weaver advised that he mentioned during pre-council what had taken place during the meeting and stated that a motion was made to request a survey and asked if he was correct. Dr. Billis asked if he was referring to the last council meeting or the Downtown Development Authority meeting. Mayor Weaver advised the last Downtown Development Authority meeting and asked Dr. Billis if this was the meeting he was referring to. Dr. Billis advised he believed the Downtown Development Authority requested a study or survey to be done by Capital Consultants. Mayor Weaver stated he believed the motion was to construct Mack Street as a full two-width street and to stripe it as one-way. If it is determined that the one-way street would not work, then Mack Street could be put back as a two-way street without the extensive cost projection that Capital Consultants shared with council and the Downtown Development Authority at the joint meeting. Mayor Weaver asked if this was correct. Dr. Billis advised yes. Councilperson Ockerman advised that the mayor brought up the issue during pre-council as he stated. Councilperson Ockerman stated he was concerned with who was going to make a decision and when. He further stated he hoped that the Downtown Development Authority would make a decision on Wednesday so a decision could be made by council at the next meeting. He asked if this was correct. Mayor Weaver advised he would like

to see a decision made by the next meeting if possible. Mr. Jenkins stated he thought a decision had to be made by November 4. Mayor Weaver advised the engineers want a decision by November 4 if possible. Councilperson Bendall asked if anything would change if the deadline of November 4<sup>th</sup> was not met. Mayor Weaver advised no.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF LUCINDA LONG TO THE CORUNNA LIBRARY

BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2000: Runyan moved, Hornus seconded to appoint Lucinda Long to the Corunna Library Board, term to expire December 31, 2000. Councilperson Hornus stated that it appears that she also writes grants. Ms. Hitchcock advised that she was not sure if Ms. Long writes grants or not. Councilperson Hornus stated the Library Board should be thrilled with Ms. Long. Councilperson Bendall advised the board is thrilled that they were getting such a qualified replacement. Councilperson Ockerman advised that he thought that Councilperson Runyan had recommended Ms. Long. Councilperson Runyan advised yes, he told Ms. Long that there was a vacancy and gave her an application.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Bendall, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER STECHSCHULTE PAVING REQUEST: Dumond moved, Hornus

seconded to approve the paving request, to pay fifty percent on items one and two and twenty-five percent on item three which calculates to be \$2,352.50, and to have Ms. Hitchcock bring a recommendation to the next council meeting on which fund to use. Councilperson Runyan asked if the motion should include that the city manager will check into which fund to take the funds from and to report back to council at the next meeting. Mayor Weaver advised that the statement could be included in the motion. Councilperson Ockerman asked if there would be a problem with adding the statement to the motion. Mayor Weaver advised no. Councilperson Runyan stated that the motion should include where the funds will come from. Councilperson Dumond advised that he would amend his motion to have the city manager bring a recommendation on which fund to take funds from at the next meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bendall, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AUDIT PRESENTATION: Steve Kirinovic from Abraham & Gaffney went through the audit presentation outline and graphs. He advised that the city has received a clean or unqualified opinion, which is the best possible opinion that a city can receive. He reported that the city has a healthy General Fund balance. Mr. Kirinovic stated that the city has four funds in a deficit and suggested that these funds be reviewed and modified in the future. Councilperson Ockerman stated the audit shows that the city levies 13.76 mills and it was his understanding that a city could go up to 20 mills. He further stated the audit indicates there is another five mills for city improvements and asked if the five mills was included in the 20 mills. Ms. Hitchcock advised the city is only allowed to levy 15 mills per the charter. She further advised the city is at the maximum millage according to the Headley Amendment. Councilperson Ockerman stated he thinks the

citizens should know the city is at the maximum millage that can be levied. He advised the last sentence on page 14 stated that no payments were made to the Airport Board last year. Councilperson Dumond advised the city made an advance payment to the Airport Board in May 1998. Councilperson Ockerman asked what could be done to be sure that an item is paid in the year that it is budgeted. Mr. Kirinovic stated that the city needs to work with other entities to have them bill consistently. Councilperson Ockerman stated he was on the Softball Commission and was bothered that their year-end was different than the city's year-end. It is a nightmare for someone like himself to review. Mr. Kirinovic stated that this situation would always be a problem unless their fiscal year-end is changed to the city's fiscal year-end. Councilperson Ockerman suggested that the Softball Commission's fiscal year-end should be changed. Ms. Hitchcock advised that it was possible. Mr. Kirinovic advised that the ordinance would have to be modified. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Hitchcock to pursue modifying the ordinance. Ms. Hitchcock asked Mr. Kirinovic if the issue was a problem for his firm. Mr. Kirinovic advised no. Councilperson Ockerman advised he is familiar with financials but he likes them to make sense. Mr. Kirinovic suggested doing an audit in October 1999 and again in June 2000. Councilperson Bendall advised there would be another \$500 audit expense in June. Councilperson Dumond stated the softball season is just getting started in June. Councilperson Ockerman stated it was not his intention to make it look like he was picking on anyone because he was not. Mayor Weaver asked Mr. Kirinovic if the commission's audit was okay last year based on the information that he received. Mr. Kirinovic advised yes, but there was a deficit due to an accounting issue that was not handled properly. Councilperson Runyan asked if the city was operating under the accrual accounting system. Mr. Kirinovic advised no, a modified accrual system. He further advised in 2003, the city would be forced to go to an accrual accounting system. Councilperson Runyan asked if it would be to the city's advantage to start sooner. Mr. Kirinovic advised yes. Councilperson Dumond asked if the new accounting standards have been written. Mr. Kirinovic advised the new standards have been written and are called GASE #34. He further advised the city is one step ahead of other municipalities. Councilperson Runyan questioned the Historical Commission's \$13,305 expenditure that was listed under recreation. Mr. Kirinovic advised there was a more detailed statement on page 49 of the audit. Councilperson Ockerman stated he thought the figure was awful high and asked who had provided the figures. Mr. Kirinovic advised that Renee Essenburg provided the information. Ms. Hitchcock advised the expenditure had to do with paying back the loan that was made to them by the city. Councilperson Runyan stated they have a \$15,000 deficit. He referred to page 23 which showed the Historical Commission is paying the city \$5,000 per year and repayment is due within three years. Ms. Hitchcock advised the initial repayment plan was three years. Councilperson Runyan advised they might have been given an extension. Councilperson Ockerman asked if the city should be concerned with the four deficits. Mr. Kirinovic advised the city would be required to respond to the state on this issue. Councilperson Dumond stated the city has had a major financial change by going with a new treasurer, and he thanked Mr. Kirinovic for the help he has given Mr. Boyd. Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to accept the audit as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Bendall, Runyan, Bayless.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE - CITIZEN IN-PUT TO THE CITY COUNCIL: Dr. Billis asked what council wanted the Downtown Development Authority to put on their next agenda. Mayor Weaver advised that the Downtown Development Authority should come up with a recommendation on making Mack Street a one-way street and they should consider the engineering costs for the streetscape project. He further advised there has not been a conclusion on these issues. Dr. Billis stated it appeared Mayor Weaver was under the opinion the Downtown Development Authority has not come to a conclusion on the Mack Street issue. Mayor Weaver advised the conclusion the Downtown Development Authority came to had to do with getting Capital Consultants to do another study, to have the engineering redone to widen Mack Street, and to informally make Mack Street a one-way street. He asked if this was the conclusion the Downtown Development Authority came to. Dr. Billis asked if council wanted the Downtown Development Authority to make a decision on making Mack Street a one-way street. Mayor Weaver advised yes. Councilperson Ockerman stated council needs to know one way or another what the Downtown Development Authority intends to do. He further stated he was personally leaning towards making Mack Street a one-way street. He also stated there are a lot of experienced men on the Downtown Development Authority and would like to see a recommendation come from them. Dr. Billis stated council might not be getting all of the information on the Downtown Development Authority's decisions. Bill Runyan asked when council would meet again to make a decision if the report has to be in by November 4. Councilperson Dumond advised that November 4th was only a requested date. Mayor Weaver advised the information needed by November 4th had to do with the general concept and layout, which the engineers have. He further advised whether Mack Street is made a one-way street or not would not stop the engineers from getting the final paperwork turned into the state. Councilperson Ockerman advised council wants the Downtown Development Authority involved.

Judy Horton advised the city had a very successful Halloween party in the community center and everything went well even though there was not a lot of kids in attendance.

ADJOURN: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Bendall.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 8:30 p.m.

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AVERY WEAVER, MAYOR

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YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK